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general state of the art references in the ISR. Return of an initialed PTO-1449 with the next official communication is requested.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that the only record rejection has been overcome. Further favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order and is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 8, 2004

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